Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 DOTE-00 EB-08 OMB-01 /057 W -------041888 181200Z /10

O P 151145Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 760
INFORUTABA/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY 385
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL DJIBOUTI 367

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PDIP. EAIR, ELTN, ET, SO, DJ, KE SUBJ: SOMALI RESPECT FOR DJIBOUTI BOUNDARIES

REF: (A) ADDIS ABABA 1180 (B) DJIBOUTI 175 (C) DJIBOUTI 250

- 1. MATTER OF ABSENCE MENTION OF DJIBOUTI IN PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT IS LIVELY DISCUSSION MATERIAL IN DJIBOUTI. IN ABSENCE FROM COUNTRY (UNTIL 22 MARCH) OF PRESIDENT, PRIME MINISTER (WHO IS ALSO FOREIGN MINISTER) AND SEVERAL OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, THERE HAVE BEEN NO OFFICIAL INQUIREIS. HOWEVER, CHARGE HAS HAD REQUESTS ABOUT MATTER FROM DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES AND FROM LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY.
- 2. CLEARLH SOME KIND OF STATEMENT IS NEEDED TO INDICATE TO SOMALIS OUR INCLUSION DJIBOUTI IN OVERALL HORN SETTLEMENT PROCESS. ALTHOUGH IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO DISPELL IDEA THAT SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT IS AFTERTHOUGHT, THERE IS INTEREST IN FRAMING A GENERALIZED STATEMENT TO INCLUDE INTEREST OF ALL COUNTRIES IN SAFEGUARDING INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CHANNELS, INCLUDING DJIBOUTI-ADDIS ABABA RAILWAY (SEE REF C), SAFE PASSAGE THROUGH THE BAB-EL-MANDEB, STRAITS OF GULF OF ADEN AND ASSOCIATED CONFIDENTIAL

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NATIONAL AIR SPACE AND INTERNATIONAL AIR ROUTES, ALL OF WHICH HAVE BEEN AFFECTED IN ONE WAY OR ANOTHER BY THE CONFLICT IN THE HRON. STATEMENT CUOULD INCLUDE REITERATION OF PROTECTION ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI FRONTIERS, AS WELL AS DJIBOUTI, AND WOULD INCLUDE POINTS FAVORABLE TO ALL SIDES, PARTICUHARLY OURS. THE ETHIOPIANS WOULD APPRECIATE POSITIVE COMMENTS ON THE RAILWAY. THE SOMALIS ARE QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT INTERNATIONAL AIR ROUTES

FROM THE NORTH WHICH REQUIRE FLIGHT CLEARANCES THROUGH ADDIS ABAZA REGIONAL AIR FLIGHT CONTROL CENTER (SEE REF B). THE SOUTH YEMENI COULD USE A REMINDER OR TWO ABOUT THE BAB EL MANDEB, WHICH THEY ARE APPARENTLY ARMING THROUGH MILITARY INSTALLAIONS ON PERIM ISLAND. THE SOVIETS COULD SAY NOTHING ABOUT SUCH AN INITIATIVE, DESPITE FACT THAY HAVE BEEN DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY INVOLVED IN MOST OF THE ABOVE ABUSES.

3. PLEASE ADVISE. CLARKE

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NNN

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